

# TRANSFER OF PUBLIC LANDS STUDY

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**Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office**

Presentation Before the Commission for the Stewardship of Public  
Lands - December 3, 2014

CAN THE STATE AFFORD  
IT?

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# Can the State Afford It?

The Study portrays the costs of current operations, and current revenue for various uses of the public lands. There is a path forward. The Legislature must review all the various modeled revenue scenarios, and consider a variety of revenue and expenditure options as part of its determination of the best way to manage the lands for the people of Utah, and of the Nation.



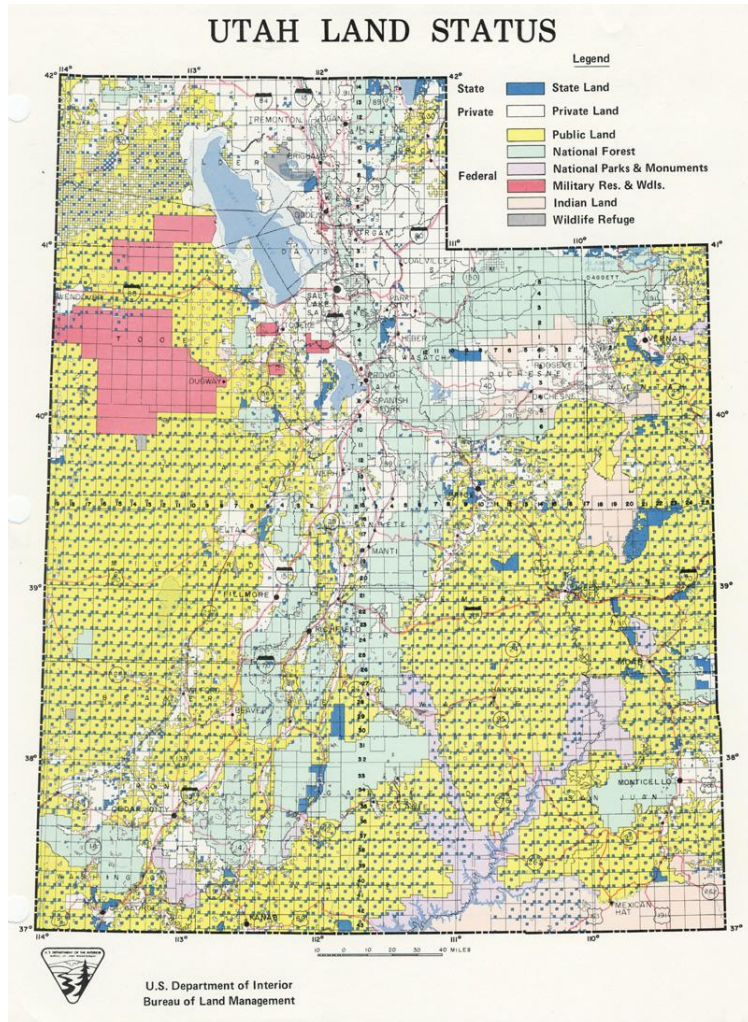
# What About Wildfire Costs?

- Projected revenues will offset the costs of wildfire response and prevention on average.





# Would the State Have to Sell Lands?



NO.

- The study does not contemplate sales
- Sales are clearly not in the State's economic interest.

ACCESS

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# Would Recreational Access Be Lost?

- Access would be enhanced under state ownership
- The lands will remain public
- The State and counties would insure continued access



# Would All of the Lands be Developed?

- Study demonstrates importance of multiple-use and other focused management missions for the lands
- Balance between development and conservation is best





# Does the Study Advocate One Use Over Others?

- All present and projected uses have value
- Key: proper balance to ensure economic success and to maintain the quality of life we all enjoy



Wind energy turbines in a valley near Spanish Fork, Utah. Photo: Morgan Corviday.

# What About Wilderness?

- The Legislature has already created a plan
- H.B. 160: transferred lands that are suitable for wilderness (or deserving protection) will be reviewed for wilderness designation and preservation



MANAGEMENT

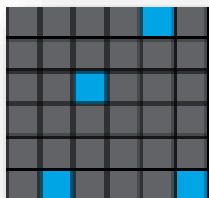
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# Who is Going to Manage the Lands?



**UTAH OFFICE OF  
ENERGY DEVELOPMENT**  
*Advancing Utah's Energy Future*



## Trust Lands Administration

State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration

# What Role Will Local Governments Play?

- Legislature will consult with the Governor on the local government involvement (roads, law enforcement, planning)



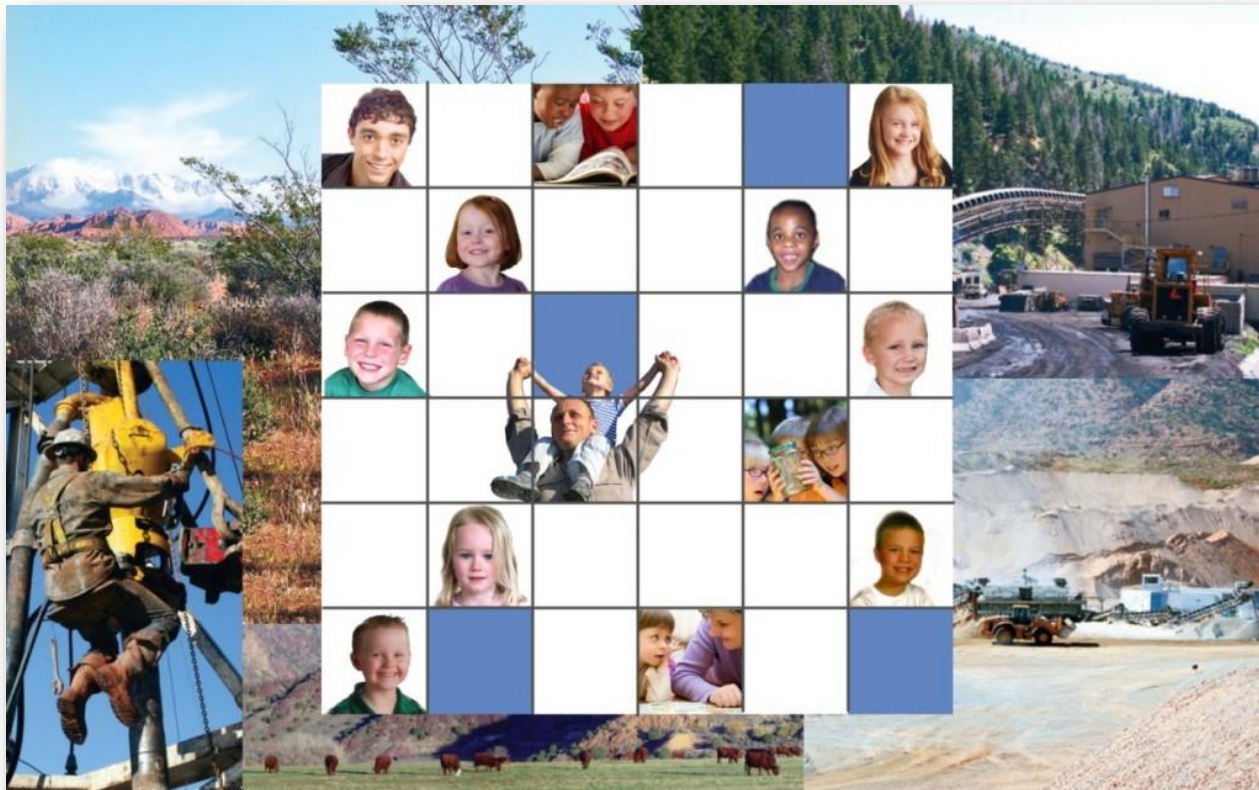


# BENEFITS TO THE STATE

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# How Will This Help Public Education?


- Increased revenues (General Fund)
- SITLA lands



# What About Federal Funds Paid to the Counties?

- PILT and SRS are not guaranteed
- Legislature should ensure guaranteed funding to the counties

| Revenue Source | Current Federal Acres | Current Payment (2013) *draft amounts | Federal Acres under HB 148 | Estimated Payment under HB 148 |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| PILT (2013)    | 35,019,834            | \$35,391,052                          | 3,745,254                  | \$4,034,734                    |
| SRS (2013)     | 8,175,226             | \$10,935,246                          | 770,563                    | \$1,029,220                    |



The difference in these figures is what the State would need to make up with revenues from other sources

# RECOMMENDATIONS AND FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

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# Questions?



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